

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Green Bay ES Field Office 1015 Challenger Court Green Bay, Wisconsin 54311-8331 Telephone 920/465-7440 FAX 920/465-7410

November 8, 1999

Ms. Laura Tesch Project Manager URS Greiner Woodward Clyde 122 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 1920 Chicago, IL 60603

> re: St. Croix Meadows Greyhound Racetrack City of Hudson

St. Croix County, Wisconsin

Dear Ms. Tesch:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has received your letter dated October 20, 1999, requesting comments on the subject project. Due to staff time constraints and priority work activities, we are able to only review your project for potential impacts to federally-listed threatened and endangered species or those proposed for listing. Be advised that other environmental concerns may be associated with this project such as wetland and stream impacts, erosion control needs, and effects on state-listed threatened or endangered species. State or federal permits may be needed, as well, if stream or wetland impacts will occur. If resource impacts are expected to occur, we recommend that you forward this project to the appropriate Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources office for their review.

Please provide us copies of any future review documents that may be associated with this project or of future projects you may be planning that would require Service review. This will allow us to keep our files current. We will provide comments as time and work priorities allow.

Federally-Listed and Proposed Threatened and Endangered Species

A review of information in our files indicates that the following federallylisted and proposed threatened or endangered species occur in St. Croix County:

Classification	Common Name	Scientific Name	<u>Habitat</u>
threatened	bald eagle	<u>Haliaeetus</u> <u>leucocephalus</u>	breeding and wintering
endangered	Karner blue butterfly	<u>Lycaeides</u> <u>melissa</u> <u>samuelis</u>	<pre>prairie, oak savanna, and jack pine areas with wild lupine</pre>
endangered	Higgins' eye pearly mussel	<u>Lampsilis</u> <u>higginsi</u>	St. Croix River

Due to the nature and location of the proposed activities, we conclude that the above listed species will not be affected. This precludes the need for

further action on this project as required by the 1973 Endangered Species Act, as amended. Should the project be modified or new information become available that indicates listed or proposed species may be affected, consultation should be initiated.

We appreciate the opportunity to respond. Questions pertaining to these comments can be directed to Mr. Joel Trick by calling 920-465-7440.

Sincerely,

Janet M. Smith

Field Supervisor